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Meet the Press PROGRAM

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DATE

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12:30 PM

CITY Washington, DC

SUBJECT

Interview with Cyrus Vance and Harold Brown

BILL MONROE: Our guests today on this one-hour edition of Meet the Press are Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Secretary of Defense Harold Brown. They announced this past week that the United States has reached agreement with the Soviet Union on a new strategic arms limitation treaty, known as SALT II. For the treaty to take effect, the U.S. Senate must ratify it by a two-thirds Secretary Vance and Secretary Brown will be the two key spokesmen for the treaty in the upcoming debate in the U.S. Senate and around the nation.

Next Sunday at this same time, we will present a special program with opponents of the SALT treaty.

Secretary Vance, just to get a few facts about the treaty on the record here, would you tell us briefly what you consider the two or three key elements in the new treaty?

SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE: Yes, I'd be very happy to do that.

First, the treaty provides, for the first time, on equal ceilings for strategic weapons on both sides.

Secondly, it provides for the reduction of strategic weapons on the part of both sides to agreed levels.

And thirdly, it, for the first time, puts limits not only on quantities of weapons, but also on the quality of weapons and the qualitative improvement of weapons.

And finally, the SALT treaty makes easier verification of the provisions of the treaty.